KCC 4781 (K-C 17,028) PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Currently Amended) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said boric acid is introduced for manufacturing a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;
introducing boric acid into said aqueous suspension in an
amount from about 5 to about 20% by weight of papermaking fibers
present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web.

- 9. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 8 wherein said boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fibers present in said aqueous suspension.
 - 10. (Canceled)
 - 11. (Canceled)

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- 12. (Canceled)
- 13. (Canceled)
- 14. (Canceled)
- 15. (Canceled)
- 16. (Canceled)
- 17. (Canceled)
- 18. (Currently Amended) A process as set forth in claim 15 wherein said boric acid is introduced for making a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers:

introducing boric acid into said aqueous suspension in an

amount ranging from about 5 to about 20% by weight of papermaking

fibers present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web, said boric acid being introduced into said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web.

- 19. (Original) A process as set forth in claim 18 wherein said boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount ranging from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fibers present in said aqueous suspension.
 - 20. (Canceled)
 - 21. (Canceled)

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- 22. (Canceled)
- 23. (Canceled)
- 24. (Canceled)
- 25. (Canceled)
- 26. (Previously Presented) A process for manufacturing a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers; introducing boric acid into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 5 to about 20% by weight of papermaking fibers present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web, said boric acid being introduced into said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

dewatering and drying said wet web.

- 27. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension.
- 28. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said wet web is through-dried by passing heated air through said wet web.